First Baptist Church

Raleigh, North Carolina

1812 — 1962

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First Baptist Church

WILMINGTON AND MORGAN STREETS

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA

1812-1962

WELCOME

"In the name of our Master we bid you a cordial welcome to this house of God, its worship, its comfort, and its peace."

CHARLES W. WARD ..... *Pastor*

JAMES W. YEARGIN ..... *Church Clerk*

DR. J. T. HAMLIN ..... *Assistant Church Clerk*

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CHARLES R. FRAZER

Foreword

The church whose sesquicentennial we now celebrate stands majestic at the southeast corner of the intersection of Wilmington and Morgan Streets, its Gothic spires reaching high above Capitol Square like watch dogs and sacred guardians of peace and good will toward all men. No bell is stationed within her steeple to call the worshipers to assembly, as of old. The style and eloquence of her beauty, the vision of her walls within, the oaken pews, the pipe organ, the stained glass windows; the glass-enclosed pool, the pulpit, the assembled choirs, all say, "Come to the church on the corner."

Diagonally across Capitol Square, at the southwest corner of the intersection of Salisbury with Hillsboro Streets, stands her counterpart, the other half of the organized church of 1812 whose celebration likewise is now in progress.

Behold a spectacle, the like of which, no doubt, no other community in our national life can boast: Two sentinels and guardians of Christian democracy standing watch over the welfare of our state, bi-racial in origin, continuous in good will and brotherly kindness in separation, climactic in the observance of its nativity.

This is the day of great rejoicing and praise to Him "who has brought us thus far on our way."

THE REVEREND CHARLES W. WARD

Greetings

To the Members of First Baptist, the many patrons, friends and well-wishers. I take this opportunity to greet you on this occasion. To our efficient chairman and co-chairman, the committee chairmen and co-chairmen, to the many members who have made up the committees, to all who have contributed in any way to make this program possible, accept my heartfelt thanks. I know how long and hard you have labored. I know something of the concern and anxiety you have had in bringing us to this moment. It is my prayer that you will be amply rewarded for your efforts.

Not too many churches are 150 years old; certainly it is a mark of distinction to be a part of a Christian church that can look back 150 years to its beginning and trace its steps through the dim past to our modern age. The founding fathers would rejoice with you today, and who knows, perhaps they are a part of the great host who are in the arena of eternity cheering you on to victory. So you are to be commended. You have not betrayed them nor their trust. You have caught a vision of the dreams they dreamed and have no doubt advanced much further than they were able to envision.

Here we are today humbled by the recollection that ours have not matched theirs neither in sacrifice, humility, sincerity, religious fervor, nor physical stamina. But you are a great people, coming from the shadows, eyes smarting from the brightness of a new sun. You have visualized the unfinished work which they had begun. There are many unsung heroes of "yester-years" and of today who have helped and are helping to make First Baptist—First Baptist.

Nothing anyone can do will erase the facts of history; First Baptist has impaneled her name on the scrolls of time. It is ours to keep the banner high.

I came to you two years and eight months ago not knowing what the future held. Today, I do not know what the future holds, but one thing I do know that the eternal God whom I serve day and night will reward every good deed, every good thought and never let his little ones fall to the dust. So where there is doubt, we must have faith, where there is fear, we must have courage. The future is longer than the past. First Baptist, I thank you for letting me be numbered among the illustrous sons of God who have graced your pulpit, who have tried to instruct in higher things and lead in spiritual pathways. We can rejoice in the fact that in these past 32 months 133 souls have been baptized and fellowshipped into our church.

I cannot close these words of greetings without calling to our attention, yours and mine, the fact that there remain too many non-Christians and unchurched people in our city and in our community. If we are to continue in the right way, we must recapture the spirit of the church fathers and of the founding fathers of this church and go out into the highways and byways in search of those who do not know Christ. We must be dissatisfied until His kingdom rules in the hearts of all men.

First Baptist has nurtured the sons and daughters of too many mothers and fathers to allow herself to become satisfied. We must meet the challenge of our day. To serve the present age is the challenge which stares us in the face. It is ours to answer this challenge. So the unfinished task is to witness so effectively for Christ that men will be restless until they too have acknowledged Him.

Lead on, O King Eternal, The day of March has come. Tomorrow, we must follow God into new pathways of life. So, in the name of our wonderful Lord I greet you and bid you let us continue under His banner.

C. W. WARD, *Pastor*

First Baptist Church

101 South Wilmington Street

Raleigh, North Carolina

First State House in Raleigh

Scene of Organization of First Baptist Church 1812

March 7th 1812

The following members were dismissed in full fellowship from the Baptized Church of Christ at Cool Spring in Wake County.

White Male Members	White F. Members
1 Hardy Sanders	1 Mary Sanders
2 Samuel Pearson	2 Nancy Card
3 Elhanon Nutt	3 Dolly Gragson
4 John Briggs	4 Elizabeth Briggs
	5 Tabbytha Hutchens

Black Male Members	Black Female Members
1 Jack	1 Liddy
2 Moses	2 Hannah
3 Elisha	3 Hasty
4 Jethro	4 Judy
~~Liddy~~	5 Lisbon
5 Joseph	6 Nelly
	7 Flora
	8 Jenny
	9 Zilpha

Raleigh, March 8th 1812

The above members were examined in the State House by Elders Robert T. Daniel and Zadock Bell, and being thought Orthodox were regularly constituted into a Gospel Church.

First Baptist Church

Brief Historical Sketch of The First Baptist Church

Preliminary Statement

The present First Baptist Church is the culmination of the noble achievements and sacrifices of men and women who were willing to give their best for the creation of a world in which all mankind could enjoy the good and beautiful things of life. The cornerstone of this historic church correctly bears the inscription 1812, a span of one hundred and fifty years of continuous existence. It was through the dynamic leadership of Elder Robert T. Daniel that the First Baptist Church was organized at the State House (now the Capitol) with a membership of twenty-three, nine of whom were white and fourteen Negroes. The membership was interracial from 1812 to 1868, a period of fifty-six years.

Record of White Pastors and Laymen

Elder Robert T. Daniel was the first pastor of the newly organized church and served until 1815, and at that time the Negro membership had increased to twenty-five.

From 1815 to 1821 the Reverends Josiah Crudup, Thomas Crocker, and James Woodberry served respectively. In 1816 the members erected a church on Person Street between Hargett and Martin at a cost of approximately $700.00.

In 1822, the Reverend Daniel again became pastor and served until 1826. It was also in 1822 that the church was moved to Moore Square, which thereafter was known as Baptist Grove, and by 1823 the membership had increased to one hundred and fifty-six Negroes and seventy whites.

The Reverend P. W. Dowd, who became the first president of the Baptist State Convention, was pastor from 1827 to 1832, and was succeeded by the Reverend William Hill Jordan who pastored until 1839. The Reverend Amos J. Battle was minister from 1839 to 1844, and it was under his guidance that the deed for the lot on the corner of Wilmington and Morgan streets was secured from Willie Jones and a house of worship was constructed at a cost of $6,000. The congregation worshiped at this site for almost twenty years. The Reverend Louis DePre succeeded the Reverend Battle, but served for a short period.

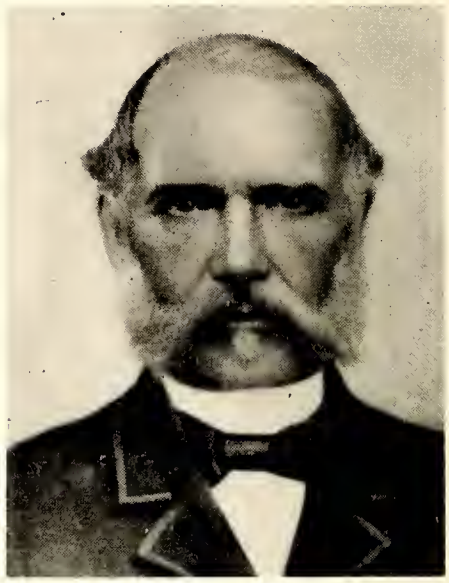
The Reverend J. J. Finch was called as pastor in 1844, and at his death, the Reverend T. W. Tobey was selected as minister in 1848 and it was during his pastorate of the First Baptist Church that he became editor of the Biblical Recorder.

In 1856 the Reverend Thomas E. Skinner was chosen as pastor, and during his first year as minister the membership increased by eighty. Under his leadership the church purchased the lot on the corner of Salisbury and Edenton Streets for $6,000.00 and erected the present church edifice. Dr. Skinner says in his book entitled "Sermons and Reminiscences," that the site of this church could not have been secured but for the aid of Jim Atkins, a devout Negro member, blacksmith by trade and rent collector for Dr. Cooke, who was the owner of the Salisbury Street property. He mentions Richard Shepard as Jim Atkins equal in strength of Christian character.

The Reverend Thomas H. Prichard, later president of Wake Forest College, was pastor from 1868 to 1874. It was during Doctor Prichard's pastorate that Henry Jett and approximately two hundred other Negroes asked for and were granted on the motion of Peter F. Pescud, permission on June 5, 1868 to move their memberships to their newly organized church located on Salisbury Street. The property for this church was purchased in 1867 for $612.00 and was deeded to Trustees Richard Shepard, Isaac Vass, and J. Calvin Strickland. The church remained at this site for thirty-six years (1868-1904). Among the early leaders were Richard and Robert Shepard. Allen Lane, Stephen Hawkins, Henry Massey, Robert Rogers, Samuel Watkins, Arthur Ivey, Anthony Burns, Moses Thompson, S. Adkins, Richard Bryant, and Jacob Jordan.

Record of Negro Pastors and Laymen

The first pastor of the First Baptist Church after the separation from the inter-racial church was the Reverend William Warwick of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The Reverend Mr. Warwick was an unusually strong pastor, very well educated, refined, spiritual, resourceful, practical, and logical in his interpretation of the scriptures and the general problems of life. He served from 1867 to 1874.



The Reverend J. J. Worlds

The second and fourth pastor was the Reverend J. J. Worlds who came in February, 1874 and served until 1880. He was called again in 1886 and pastored until 1902. The Reverend Mr. Worlds was born in Harnett County near Lillington, North Carolina. He went to Detroit, Mich., when a boy, attended school there, and learned a trade. After working in Detroit for several years, he went to Toledo, Ohio, married, and later became pastor of a church there. At the close of the Civil War, in company with the Reverend White, an army chaplain, he returned to his native state, preaching first in Halifax County, then in Tarboro; and it was from Tarboro that he was called to the First Baptist Church in Raleigh in 1874. His character, liberal spirit, devoted service, faithfulness and uncompromising stand for righteousness

won the respect of all. The fact that he was called again as pastor in 1886 and served until 1902 is an indication of the congregation's love for him. Under his guidance the members in 1896 purchased for $2,000 the present site which was deeded to Trustees Allen Lane, Broadie Rogers, Henderson Crosson, Richard Plummer and Booker Hardie.

THE REVEREND WILLIAM A. GREEN

The Reverend William A. Green was the third Negro pastor of the First Baptist Church. He was born in one of the provinces of the Dominion of Canada — Nova Scotia.

His boyhood days were spent in Boston, Massachusetts, where his early education was begun. His higher education was completed at Howard University.

He later returned to Boston and was for a short while pastor of the First Independent Baptist Church of that city. At the outbreak of the Civil War, he enlisted in the Union Army and was appointed chaplain. He gave his spare time to teaching the men of his regiment to read, write, spell, and the like.

At the close of the Civil War, he was mustered out in Wilmington, North Carolina, and because of a throat ailment, turned his attention to teaching. He had the honor of being the first Negro to hold a first grade certificate in New Hanover County. He also held the position of clerk of the Wilmington city market.

He was called to the pastorate of the First Baptist Church of Raleigh, North Carolina in 1880, and served faithfully until his death in 1886. He was buried in the National Cemetery at Wilmington, North Carolina.

The fourth Negro to serve as pastor of the First Baptist Church was Doctor J. W. Kirby who was called from Farmville, Virginia in 1902. He was a native of Virginia and was educated at Hampton Normal Institute and the Richmond Theological Institute, which in recognition of his outstanding achievements, conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Divinity.

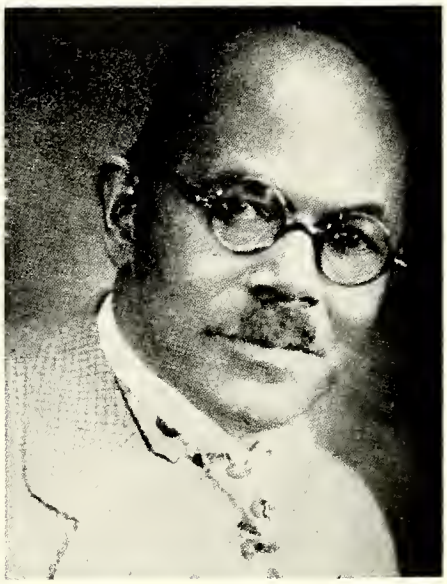
Doctor Kirby's pastorate in Raleigh was very short since he lived only eight months after coming here. In addition to his pastoral work, he served as instructor in the Theological Department of Shaw University.

Doctor Kirby could do little for the church in the short time he was its pastor, but his kindly spirit and graciousness endeared him to his congregation as perhaps no other pastor did in so short a time. Among his contributions are the Winnowed Anthems which are still being used by the choirs.

THE REVEREND WILLIAM T. COLEMAN

The fifth Negro to serve as pastor of the First Baptist Church was Doctor W. T. Coleman. Doctor Coleman was born in Uniontown, Alabama, October 20, 1867, and was the son of John G. and Mary Coleman. He attended the public schools in his home town, and later entered Selma University in Alabama, and was graduated in 1892. He then entered the Richmond Theological Seminary, and was graduated in 1895. In 1901 he was married to Miss Veola L. Gnerrant of Danville, Virginia. In 1899, he went abroad and traveled very extensively. Doctor Coleman taught mathematics and philosophy at Selma University from 1896 to 1905. He came to the First Baptist Church in 1903 and served until 1912. During his stay in Raleigh, he completed a curriculum in medicine at the Leonard Medical College in 1909, and thus placed himself in position to render a more effective service to his people.

Doctor Coleman practiced medicine in Baltimore, Maryland for a number of years. His entire life was crowded with good and noble deeds. The present structure stands as a monument to him because it was through his insight and leadership that it was constructed and the cornerstone was laid in 1904. Doctor Coleman instituted the idea of dividing the membership into clubs. The names of some of the members of these groups may be seen on the stained glass windows in the Sanctuary.



THE REVEREND C. E. ASKEW

The sixth Negro pastor of the First Baptist Church of Raleigh was Doctor C. E. Askew. Doctor Askew was called to the pastorate here from the First Baptist Church of Rocky Mount, North Carolina.

Doctor Askew is the son of the late Andrew Jackson Askew and Flora Holloman Askew of Harrellsville, North Carolina. He received his literary and theological train-

ing at Shaw University. Doctor Askew was married to Miss Mallie G. Beebe, daughter of Bishop and Mrs. J. A. Beebe in 1903. He was graduated from Shaw University with the Bachelor of Theology degree in 1908.

Both Shaw University and Benedict College have honored Doctor Askew with the Doctor of Divinity degrees.

Doctor Askew demonstrated his leadership ability by liquidating the church's heavy debt in a comparatively short time. In addition, the physical and spiritual aspects of the church were greatly enhanced during his administration. For example, it was through his leadership that the present church organ was purchased.

Doctor Askew served from 1912 to 1921. He resigned and accepted a church in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and after became pastor of the Third Baptist Church of Detroit, Michigan. He now resides in Zebulon, North Carolina, and is frequently called to serve as guest minister. The congregation is always glad to hear him.

THE REVEREND O. S. BULLOCK

The seventh Negro pastor of the First Baptist Church of Raleigh was Doctor Oscar Sidney Bullock. Doctor Bullock was called from the First Baptist Church of High Point on August 7, 1921, and was installed in October of the same year. Doctor Bullock is a native of a Vance County community. He was born near Henderson, North Carolina and is the son of the late Horace and Emma Bullock. He completed his college preparatory training at the Henderson Normal School, and his college and theological training at Lincoln University, Oxford, Pennsylvania. The following degrees were conferred upon Doctor Bullock by Lincoln University: Bachelor of Arts, Master of Arts, Bachelor of Sacred Theology, and Doctor of Divinity. On May 26, 1947, Shaw University, in recognition of his significant contribution to Christian education and local, state, and national church leadership, conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Divinity.

The following brief summary of his achievements is an indication of his creative mind, his outstanding leadership ability, and his incessant desire to give his soul to the cause of Christ. Doctor Bullock recognizing the fact that the church is located in the center of the city, far away from a large part of the membership, conceived the pioneering idea of purchasing a bus and giving free transportation to children and many adults. This service began in 1925, and has continued without a single interruption or accident. In 1933, cognizant of the inadequacy of the basement Sunday School facilities, he led in the erection of the three story Educational Annex at a cost of approximately $20,000. This building provided adequate facilities for a graded Sunday School program with thirty-two individual classrooms and seven departments. These additions and improvements placed the First Baptist Church in a category where it was recognized as having one of the best Sunday School organizations in the country.

In 1945, it was under the leadership of Doctor Bullock that the adjoining building, now known as the Bullock Building was purchased at a cost of $25,000. However, Doctor Bullock, realizing the inadequacy of this building for Sunday School and Church use, raised and spent $10,000 to adapt it to its present use and service.

In addition to these outstanding achievements, Doctor Bullock led the Church in the purchase of the Matthew Memorial Parsonage on East and Davie Streets at a cost of $9,000.00, built the present parsonage on Bloodworth Street at an expenditure of $7,000, air-conditioned the Sanctuary at a cost of $10,000, renovated the Sanctuary, and furnished it with beautiful pews costing $5,000. He gave Raleigh its first Negro Daily Vacation Bible School, and pioneered in the organization of training courses for teachers and officers. Doctor Bullock served as pastor from 1921 to 1958, a period of thirty-seven years, and it may be said that he contributed more to the physical, social, educational, and spiritual growth of the First Baptist Church than any of its other pastors. His unselfish services to the Lott Carey Convention, the Baptists of North Carolina, and Shaw University will forever be remembered as dedicated investments in Christian education and human resources.

The First Baptist Church will never be able to pay Doctor Bullock for the spiritual, educational, and social leadership that he provided for this church, our city, our state, and our country at large. His organizing and administrative genius has made the First Baptist Church an institution to which men and women come from many sections of our state and country to observe a model Sunday school and a church functioning to the glory of God and the edification of all of its constituency.

It may be said of Doctor Bullock that he was patient in his daily duties, he strove to conquer the evils that so easily beset us, he awakened sleeping spirits, he encouraged the eager and steadied the unstable, he shared with us the best treasures of his mind, and that he lighted many candles which are shining back to cheer and comfort him.

Raleigh Sept 5th 1856

At a regular meeting of the church conference was opened by prayer. List of male members called: absentees noted. The Clerk was instructed to write again to Brethren P. H. Johnson, Jas F Jordan and Thomas Jenkins. Bro. Gaston Broughton was received as a member by a letter of dismission from Mt. Moriah Church, Wake County N. C. Brethren P. F. Pescud and Drury King reported through Bro. Pescud that they had visited Brethren P. P. Williams & L. Vaughan. The first could not attend our meetings on account of other business to be attended to at the same time and on account of his necessary attendance at the Temperance Society as an Officer. The second said that he did not think it was his duty to attend on account of domestic troubles and the increasing infirmities of old age. Both however professed much zeal for the welfare of the cause of Christ. The report was received and committee discharged. No one of the church lot or committee present. Letters of dismission were granted and ordered to be sent to Brother Geo Macon and Sister Georgia Meredith. After next Sabbath the Church agreed to have the galleries vacated by the colored congregation to be occupied by the children and young persons of both sexes connected with the Sabbath School and the congregation during the forenoon services. The colored congregation to have a special Sermon every Sabbath Afternoon and permission to use the galleries at night. Brethren G. B. Bagwell and Lynn Adams were appointed delegates (Brethren N. B. Green and D. King Alternates) to represent this church in the next Raleigh Association at Hepzibath Saturday before the fourth Sunday in this month. The Church collected $2 $\frac{50}{100}$ to be sent to the Association as our part towards the expense of printing the Minutes. The Clerk was instructed to write the usual church Letter to the Association. Conference adjourned with prayer by Bro. Pescud.

Rev. Thos. E. Skinner Moderator Jordan Womble Jr Clerk

Friday Night June 5th. 1868

The regular meeting of the Church was opened to-night by prayer. Minutes of previous meeting were read and approved. Our Pastor had received a reply from Bro. S. G. Wallace of Greenville, in regard to the disparaging reports about Rev. G. W. Johnson & one from Rev. G. W. Sanderlin, Goldsboro, in regard to Sr. Hilliard. These letters were satisfactory and encouraging.

The following charge was preferred: We hereby charge Brethren Jno. R. Harrison, Frank Warren, John Ray & Calb Gaillard with drunkenness.

P. F. Pescud
J. H. Alford
Peter Francis

As Bro. Warren was present on motion of Bro. Pescud the Church agreed to listen to any statement which he might make.

Bro. Warren briefly confessed his sin asked the forbearance of the Church and promised to strive to reform. After some questions from Brethren, and some remarks of reproof advice and encouragement on motion of Bro. Mills, the confessions and promises of Bro. Warren were regarded as satisfactory. On motion of Bro. Mills the charge against the 3 other brethren were entertained, and the Clerk directed to notify them to appear before the Ch. at the next regular meeting. On motion the Ch. worship of the Church was withdrawn from Mrs. Sarah High, as some of the Brethren were confident, from many reports and some of them very reliable, that she was leading a life of prostitution or adultery.

Our Pastor stated that Sr. Delia Womble told him she had given her letter of dismission from a Norfolk Ch. to Bro. Skinner, but she didn't know whether she had been received or not. There was no account of the letter on record, and on motion she was received.

As it was learned that a delegation from the Col. Ch. were at the door, on motion of Bro. Pescud they were received, Bro. Henry Pt. one of these delegates, having expressed the thanks of the Church Col. for some favors received from us and having made some remarks as to their condition and hopes stated that the Col. Ch. wished our Ch. to dismiss them in a body either by letters or by a simple vote. They having already organized in a separate body under the name

THE REVEREND C. W. WARD

The Reverend Charles W. Ward, who came as minister in July, 1959, is the eighth Negro pastor of the First Baptist Church. He is a native of LaGrange, Georgia, and is a graduate of the Depot Street High School of LaGrange. He received the Bachelor of Arts degree from Morehouse College, Atlanta, Georgia, and the Bachelor of Divinity degree from Howard University.

The Reverend Mr. Ward came to the pastorate from the First Baptist Church of Macon, Georgia, where he served as pastor from 1954 to 1959.

Through his leadership qualities he has made himself a definite functioning part of the Raleigh community, the state, and many national Baptist and general organizations during the relatively short period he has been pastor. He is a member of the Mayor's Committtee, President of the Raleigh Ministerial Association, member of the Executive Board of the Lott Carey Convention, Assistant Secretary of the General Baptist Convention of North Carolina, member of the Foreign Mission Board of the National Baptist Convention, and chairman of the Executive Board of the Raleigh Branch of N.A.A.C.P.

The First Baptist Church is moving forward in a commendable manner under his guidance. More than $30,000 has been spent for renovation during the relatively short period he has been pastor.

For example, it has been through the Reverend Mr. Ward's guidance that repairs have been made to the church steeple and entrance to the balcony, the roof of the Bullock Buildling and that a new heating plant has been installed in the church. In addition, it has been under his leadership that the interior of the church has been re-decorated, banquet tables purchased, the exterior of church painted, and other improvements made.

———o———

THE DEACON BOARD OF 1925

Sitting, left to right: James M. Higgs, C. A. Walker. Standing, second row: Julius Riddick, Charlie Higgs, Nero Hockaday. Third row: M. D. Haywood, I. W. Rand, J. W. Yeargin, C. C. Jolly, and M. M. Mitchell.

COLONEL JAMES H. YOUNG

Church Clerk Superintendent of Sunday School for more than forty years.

DEACON WESLEY MOSLEY

Tireless Church Worker

THOMAS H. BRIGGS

Interracial Sunday School Teacher

DEACON JOHN A. ALSTON

Aided in Construction of present Church

DR. G. T. JONES

Church Clerk Musical Director

PROF. JOSHUA LEVISTER

Deacon, Sunday School Superintendent, Teacher

WILLIAM H. PEACE

Church Secretary Deacon

ROBERT SHEPARD

Son of one of the Original Trustees

A. J. ROGERS

Trustee, Superintendent of Sunday School

JAMES HIGGS

Deacon, Church Treasurer

JOHN MOSLEY

Musical Director

DEACON AND TRUSTEE BOARDS OF 1962

Inset — Dr. N. L. Perry, J. W. Eaton. Left to right, first row: Dr. N. H. Harris, Dr. Thomas Hamlin, J. W. Yeargin, M. D. Haywood, W. H. Taylor, Frank Hinton, Robert Powell.

Second row, left to right: Clarence Henry, Charles W. Haywood, Delmo Hall, Reverend C. W. Ward, A. Sanders, A. A. Cooke, and D. R. Ingram.

Top row, left to right: George D. Vinson, C. A. Levister, Ellis Jones, Jesse Branche, Wm. Hurdle, P. G. Mitchell, Lex Colson.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE — LAYMAN'S LEAGUE

First row, left to right: C. A. Levister, and Reverend C. W. Ward.

Second Row, left to right: E. M. Sanders, Joseph Robinson, N. E. Leach, and D. R. Ingram

Top row, left to right: Ross Fowler, Delmo Hall, F. P. Payne, M. H. Crockett, and W. C. Davenport.

The General Groups

Through the far-sightedness and guidance of Dr. O. S. Bullock, the group system was organized in 1930 for the purpose of offering opportunities for enlightment, creating interest, discovering talent, and facing the challenge of uniting efforts to save souls. The church membership was divided into ten geographical groups, organized as outlined by the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina. This system has been a means of uniting the members all over the city into one big church family.

The groups have been and are an integral part of the church. They aid in sponsoring the Daily Vacation Bible School, give garments, meals, clothing, and make contributions to the needy saints. They are essential in the fund raising projects of the church because through the groups, each member is contacted personally by his leader. In August, 1961, the groups entertained the Seventy-Seventh Annual Session of the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina.

The first general officers were Mrs. Ella Pegues, who served as general group leader from 1930 to 1945; Mrs. Hattie Toole, secretary; Mrs. Lucy Rand, assistant secretary; Mrs. Lillie Williams, treasurer. Mrs. Lucy Rand served as general leader until Mrs. Emma Cheek was elected. Mrs. Hattie Toole succeeded Mrs. Cheek in 1950 and served until 1961. The present leader is Mrs. Mildred Chavis, who began serving January, 1961. Mrs. Mary Sapp, who began serving under Mrs. Cheek, is still secretary.

MRS. HATTIE TOOLE
First Secretary of Group Leaders

FIRST GROUP LEADERS

First row, left to right: Mrs. Delia Pope, Mrs. Mary B. Sapp, Mrs. Ella C. Pegues, Mrs. Pattie Sessoms, Mrs. Sarah B. Marks.

Second row, left to right: Mrs. Lucy Rand, Mrs. Amelia R. Johnson, Mrs. Blonnie Slade, Mrs. Setarra Bryant, and Mrs. Emma Browning.

Third row, left to right: Mrs. Fannie Ellis, Mrs. Hattie Christmas, Mrs. Nora Sanders, Mrs. Electa Hockaday, Mrs. Sarah Sharper, and Mrs. Mildred McIver James.

GROUP LEADERS, 1949

Past Group Leaders

THE TEN GROUPS HAVE HAD THE FOLLOWING LEADERS:

GROUP NUMBER I —

Mrs. Electra Hockaday

GROUP NUMBER II —

Mrs. Nora Sanders
Mrs. Mildred T. James
Mrs. Pearl Nichols
Mrs. Candace Evans
Mrs. Roberta Richardson

GROUP NUMBER III —

Mrs. Lula Leach*
Mrs. Blonnie Slade*

GROUP NUMBER IV —

Mrs. R. E. Crudup
Mrs. Catherine P. Jones
Mrs. Elizabeth K. Wilson
Mrs. Lillie Pope
Mrs. Naomi Debnam

GROUP NUMBER V —

Mrs. W. A. Williams
Mrs. Fannie Ellis*
Mrs. Ernestine P. Hamlin
Mrs. Daisy Ligon*

GROUP NUMBER VI —

Mrs. Lucy Rand*
Mrs. Carrie Hinton

GROUP NUMBER VII —

Mrs. Sarah B. Marks*
Mrs. Peggie Perry*
Mrs. Hattie Toole
Mrs. Pattie Smith
Mrs. Helen Williams

GROUP NUMBER VIII —

Mr. W. S. Mosley*
Mr. A. E. Boykin

GROUP NUMBER IX —

Mr. W. H. Peace, Sr.*
Mr. Moody Haywood

GROUP NUMBER X —

Mrs. Cornelia Hawkins

*Deceased

Group Leaders of 1962

Seated, left to right: Mrs. Nora Sanders, Mrs. Pattie Higgs, Mrs. Mary Sapp, Mrs. Mildred Chavis, Mrs. Beatrice Spraggins, Mrs. Irene Marrow, Mrs. Carrie Laws, Mrs. Laura Wimberley. Standing, left to right: Mr. Luke Williams, Mrs. Cleo Parrish, Mrs. Sarah Sharper, Mrs. Pattie Smith, Mrs. Mary Lane, Miss Diane White, Mrs. Pearl S. Williams, Mrs. Lease Horton and Mr. C. A. Langston.

Women In The Church

MRS. SALLIE MIAL

Women have made significant contributions to the organization and development of the First Baptist Church. Outnumbering the men in its beginning in 1812, they have always constituted the majority of its membership, and have been willing to give of their time and means for the advancement of the church and its program.

Notable among the women who were leaders of the past are Sister Sallie A. Mial, who organized the first club of young girls in a "What I Can" society, which later became state-wide in scope; Sister Mary Burwell, who organized the Woman's Missionary Society, which was a very potent factor in the church for many years until it merged with the General Groups under the leadership of Sister Ella C. Pegues; Sister Jane Holeman, who was the leader of the White Cap Club and is accredited with raising the first dollar toward the construction of this church; and Sister Maheila C. Bullock, wife of Dr. O. S. Bullock, who organized the Sallie Mial Band, Loyalty Boys Club, the What I Can Circle, and the Little Missionary Volunteers as a part of the missionary groups of the church. These groups adopted an African boy, whom they named for Dr. O. S. Bullock, and educated him. Oscar Sydney Bullock is now married and as a preacher is serving well in his homeland.

Some of the other women who are remembered for their leadership and sacrifices are Sisters Bessie Barrett, Hattie Rogers, Amanda Hodge, Grace Hawkins, Annie Hunt, Pattie Sessoms, Mary Christmas, Luna Harris, Margaret Groves, Kate Thomas, Channie Smith, Florence Young, and Margaret Harris.

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The women of First Baptist Church have over the years helped in the overall program of the Church.

A typical Woman's Day scene is that pictured of the platform guests after the morning service October, 1961.

Shown from left to right are: Dr. Nancy Bullock McGhee, Guest Speaker, Hampton, Va.; Mrs. Minetta B. Eaton, Chmn. Women's Day Program; standing, Mesdames Roberta Ward, Ella Morgan and Nora E. Lockhart.

DEACONESS BOARD

Seated, left to right: Mrs. W. H. Taylor, Mrs. W. J. Byrd, Mrs. Delmo Hall, Mrs. J. W. Eaton, Mrs. P. L. Higgs, Mrs. C. A. Levister, Mrs. Nora Sanders, and Mrs. P. G. Mitchell.

Standing left to right: Mrs. Wm. Hurdle, Mrs. George Vinson, Mrs. Frank Hinton, Mrs. Ellis Jones, Mrs. M. D. Haywood, Mrs. A. A. Cooke, Mrs. D. R. Ingram, Mrs. Anderson Sanders, Mrs. C. W. Haywood, and Mrs. Eugenia Dunn.

OFFICERS AND LEADERS OF THE BAPTIST TRAINING UNION

Seated: C. A. Levister, Mrs. May L. Broadie, Frank Hinton, Mrs. Roberta Ward, C. Langston, Mrs. Louise Shaw, Mrs. Dixie Montague, Diane White, Cardrienne Stanley, Ella Haywood, Mrs. Ora Jones, Mrs. Bernestine Sanders, not shown Madelyn Watson, Melveese Scott.

Mr. Frank Hinton is director. Miss Madelyn Watson, missing from picture, is associate director and Mrs. Louise Shaw is associate director.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Seated: Mrs. Mildred Chavis, C. A. Levister, Mrs. Laura Wimberley, Reverend C. Ward, Dr. Ellen S. Alston, Mrs. E. M. M. Kelly, Miss Mildred McTyre, Chairman; W. H. Taylor. Standing: W. C. Davenport, M. C. Hill, A. C. Cooke, Frank Hinton.

The Sunday School

SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFICERS

W. H. Taylor ..... *General Superintendent*

M. C. Hill ..... *Assistant Secretary*

Mrs. Beatrice Martin Spraggins ..... *General Secretary*

George D. Vinson ..... *Associate Superintendent*

C. R. Frazer ..... *Music Director*

Sylvester White ..... *Associate Music Director*

Miss Cardrienne Stanley, Miss Joyce Cooke, and Miss Lloydine Perry ..... *Organists*

DEPARTMENTAL SUPERINTENDENTS

D. R. Ingram ..... *Adult*

Mrs. W. A. Williams and Mrs. Candace Evans ..... *Young People*

Mrs. A. D. Hurdle and Miss Blonnie Slade ..... *Intermediate*

Mr. Igal E. Spraggins ..... *Junior*

Mrs. S. B. Sharper ..... *Primary*

Mrs. Mildred Chavis ..... *Beginners*

Mrs. May L. Broadie ..... *Cradle Roll*

Mrs. Eugenia Dunn ..... *Home*

Sunday School-Officers and Teachers

Front row, left to right: Mrs. M. D. Haywood, Mrs. Pattie Smith, Carol Taylor, Mrs. S. B. Sharper, G. D. Vinson, W. H. Taylor, Superintendent; M. C. Hill, Mrs. R. E. Wimberley, Mrs. Eugenia Dunn, Mrs. M. W. Williams.

Second row, left to right: Mrs. Ann Hurdle, C. R. Frazer, Miss Diane White, Ann White, Helen Morris, Cardrienne Stanley, Mrs. Beatrice Martin Spraggins, Mrs. V. K. Newell, Mrs. Mildred Chavis, Barbara Hart, Mrs. M. L. Broadie, D. R. Ingram, Igal Spraggins, Mrs. Mildred James, N. E. Leach.

Very few of us today can look back upon the old church on Salisbury Street which housed at once the preaching congregation and the Sunday School, but the large, one-winged frame building on Sunday morning was like a bee-hive of young and old busily engaged in the study and teaching of the lessons, edited by the American Baptist Home Mission Society, all classes being taught with good effect under one roof, departmentalized but not so efficiently as at the present time. We stretch our memory back to the late eighties, prior to which there are no recorded minutes on the organized Sunday School; but, even as early as this, we have the following record.

In retrospect we see Dr. Worlds in charge of a class of adults and in his inimitable way expounding the gospel to them. The late Colonel James H. Young is sitting in the south wing of the church keeping the record and supervising the Sunday School Program. As far as we know at the present, he was the first superintendent of the organized church school.

From the beginning, the Sunday School of the church has maintained a high average of attendance, capable and energetic teachers and officers, and a remarkable degree of loyalty and devotion to the church.

At no time, through the years, has there been any doubt about the future of the organized Sunday School program.

Among the many who made rich contributions to this effort (and we could name them by the dozen) were Sisters Mary Burwell, Bula and Anita Rogers, Callie Satterfield, Lula Evans, Sarah Brown, Marian Higgs, Lillie Alston, Aletha Harris, Julie Amie, and Looie Pitts; Brothers Andrew Rogers, E. H. Rogers, William Vass and W. M. Quinn. Col. Young served as General Superintendent for about 40 years . . . . until 1918 when he resigned because of ill health.

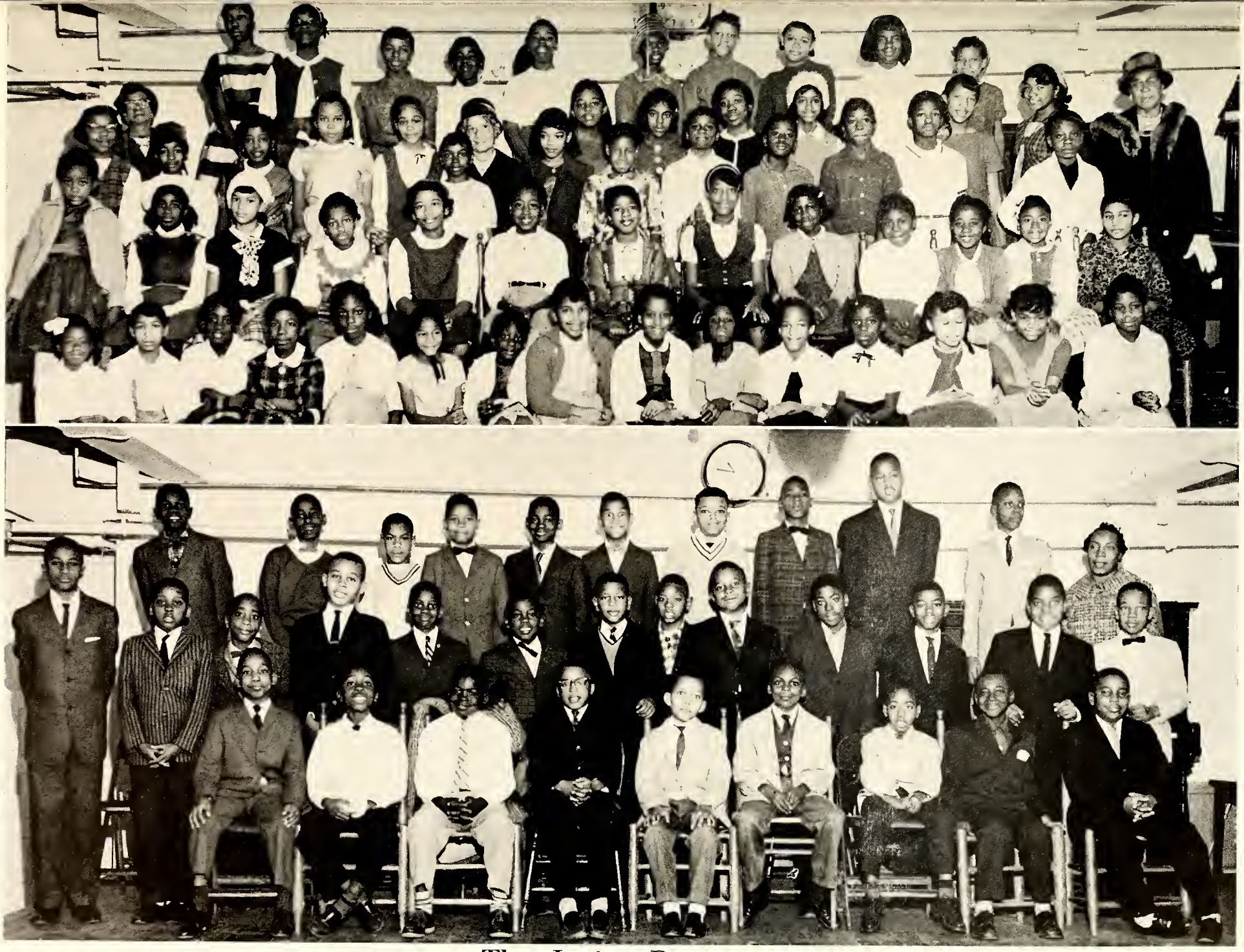
A. J. Rogers followed as superintendent and served for six years. He was fatally stricken, while conducting the opening exercise on Sunday morning. Professor Joshua L. Levister served from 1925 to 1939 in a progressive program.

Brother M. D. Haywood became the next superintendent, and it was under his administration, together with the pastor, Dr. O. S. Bullock, that the program was greatly expanded. From a one-room situation, a departmental school was developed with individual classrooms and a teacher-training course was conducted. The Annex and Bullock Building were part of the great expanding program of the Sunday School.

Just a few of the leading personalities of this period were: Brothers, J. L. Levister, S. L. Brown, J. W. Hodge, J. W. Yeargin, W. H. Taylor, Charles B. Jones, W. H. Fuller, L. B. Capehart, George T. Jones, C. H. Frazer, M. T. Pope, and J. D. Crudup; Sisters Susan Taylor, E. C. Pegues, Mildred Taylor, Addie Brown, Maggie Green, Carrie Moseley, Mehelia Bullock, Nancy Hayes, Nan Fuller, Margaret Harris, E. M. Yeargin, R. A. Moore, Beatrice Martin, and F. P. Eatson. Brother Haywood resigned in 1951.

Brother W. H. Taylor followed as superintendent and is still acting in this capacity. Associated with him in his early administration were Brother J. W. Yeargin, Superintendent of the Adult Department, Sister Susan Taylor, Young People's Department, Sister Delia Pope, Intermediate Department, Brother A. A. Cooke, Junior Department, Sister S. B. Marks, Primary and Junior Departments, Sister Mildred Chavis, Beginners Department, Sister Florence Young, Cradle Roll Department and Sister Emma Browning, the Home Department. Under the present administration, the Sunday School is continuing to progress.

Beginners and Primary Departments



The Junior Department

The Ella C. Pegues Bible Class

Coleman Bible Class

Dorcas Bible Class

Executive Committee of Sunday School

D. R. INGRAM, *Chairman*

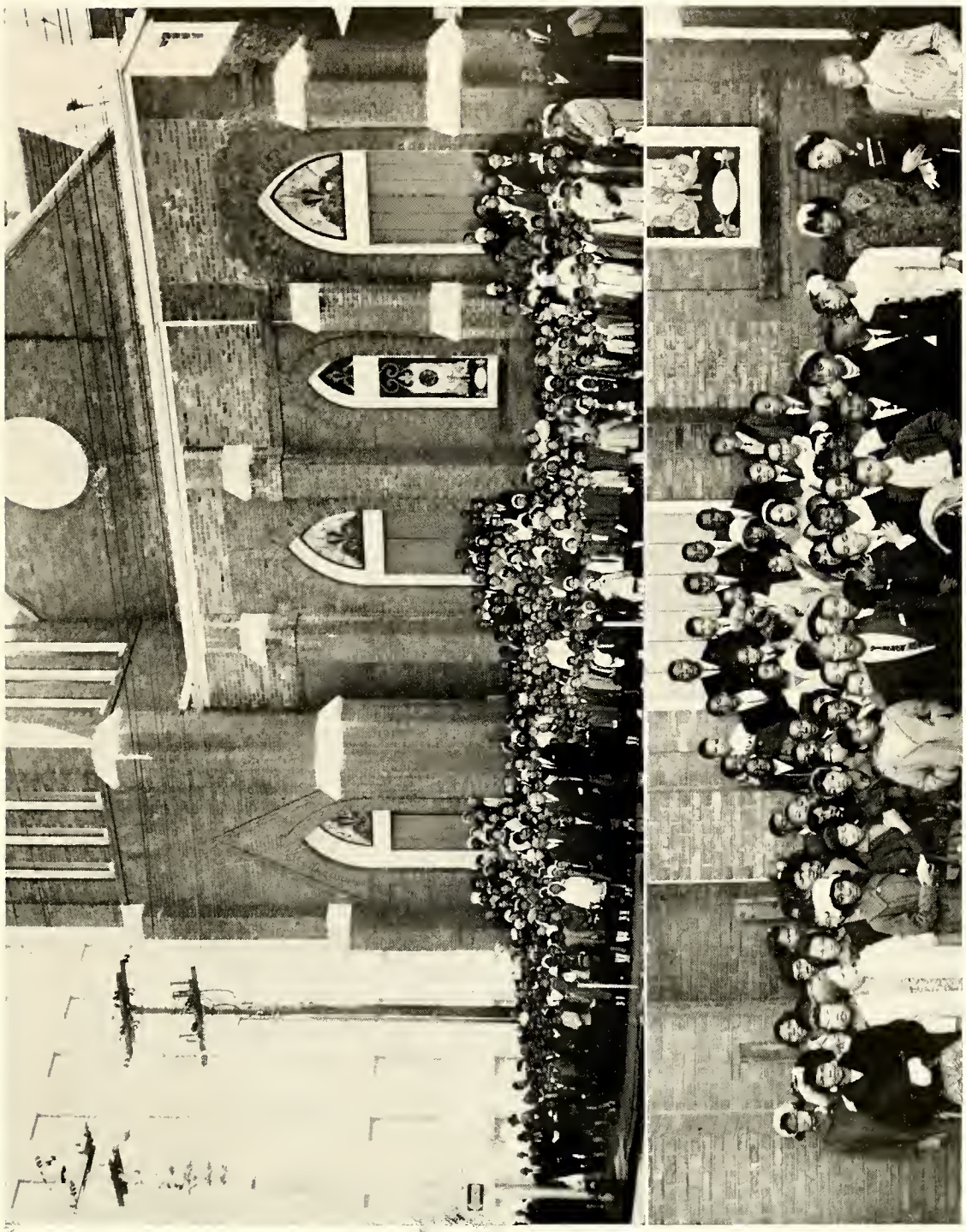
Timothian Bible Class

DR. N. H. HARRIS, *Teacher*

Philathia Bible Class

MRS. BESSIE W. MOORE, *Teacher*

Sunday School Assembled and the Intermediate Department



A New Sunday School Bus

Music

Mrs. E. May M. Kelly ..... *Minister of Music*

Mrs. Mildred T. James ..... *Director, Senior Choir*

William W. Hurdle ..... *Director, Junior Choir*

Mrs. E. May M. Kelly ..... *Director, Mosley-Jones Choir*

Mrs. Lucille Paige and Miss Ernestine Laws .... *Directors, Tots Choir*

Mrs. Helen Williams ..... *Mother of Tots Choir*

Mrs. E. May M. Kelly ..... *Director, Cathedral Choir*

Lorenzo D. Battle ..... *Director, Male Chorus*

Music

MRS. E. M. M. KELLY, Minister of Music

MRS. MILDRED T. JAMES, Director, Senior Choir

Music in our early church was largely in the hands of spiritual "song-birds" from the audience. During the early years, the lack of an instrument encouraged more audience participation; hence, many so-called soloists, or song leaders, sprang up. These leaders were truly inspired of God with spiritual fervor. One of our first such leaders was the Reverend George Mial, who worked at the Oxford Orphanage where he developed a chorus with which he traveled and presented concerts. Mr. Dennis Taylor, whose voice thrilled many and lifted their spirits, was also a music personality in the church and served for many years as director of the Sunday School choir during the pastorate of The Rev. C. E. Askew. Mrs. Esther Hinton and Mrs. Lula Evans Young served as Sunday School organists.

Through the years there were many other good spirits of song, such as Mrs. Alice Brown and Mrs. Hattie Rogers, whose favorite song, especially during revival, was "O Why Not Tonight"; and Deacon Wesley Mosley, whose favorites were "Lord, Keep Me Day By Day" and "I Shall Not Be Moved." During any lull in the services, another voice, that of Mr. George Hinton, could be heard singing, "Lord, I Want to Be a Christian" with the audience joining in with deep spiritual feeling.

Mrs. Lucy Grant Haywood, a well-trained pianist, was the first pianist to receive a salary which was at first paid for by an officer of the church, Colonel J. Young who felt that the ministry of music deserved a place of dignity and appreciation.

Since that time with its humble beginning, the Ministry of Music at the First Baptist Church has aimed at high standards spiritually, culturally, and musically. Keeping in mind the biblical admonishment to sing hymns, anthems, and Gospel songs (like Fannye Crosby's hymns) the early leaders set a high standard of excellence. At the keyboard were persons like Mrs. W. T. Coleman, Mr. John Barrett, Mrs. Elwyna Holt, and Mrs. Minnie B. H. Freeman. Choir directors were Mr. John Mosley, Dr. George T. Jones, Mr. C. R. Frazer, Mr. William H. Taylor, Sr., and Mrs. M. T. James, who is still serving. Many of the above persons gave a labour of love, working without salary.

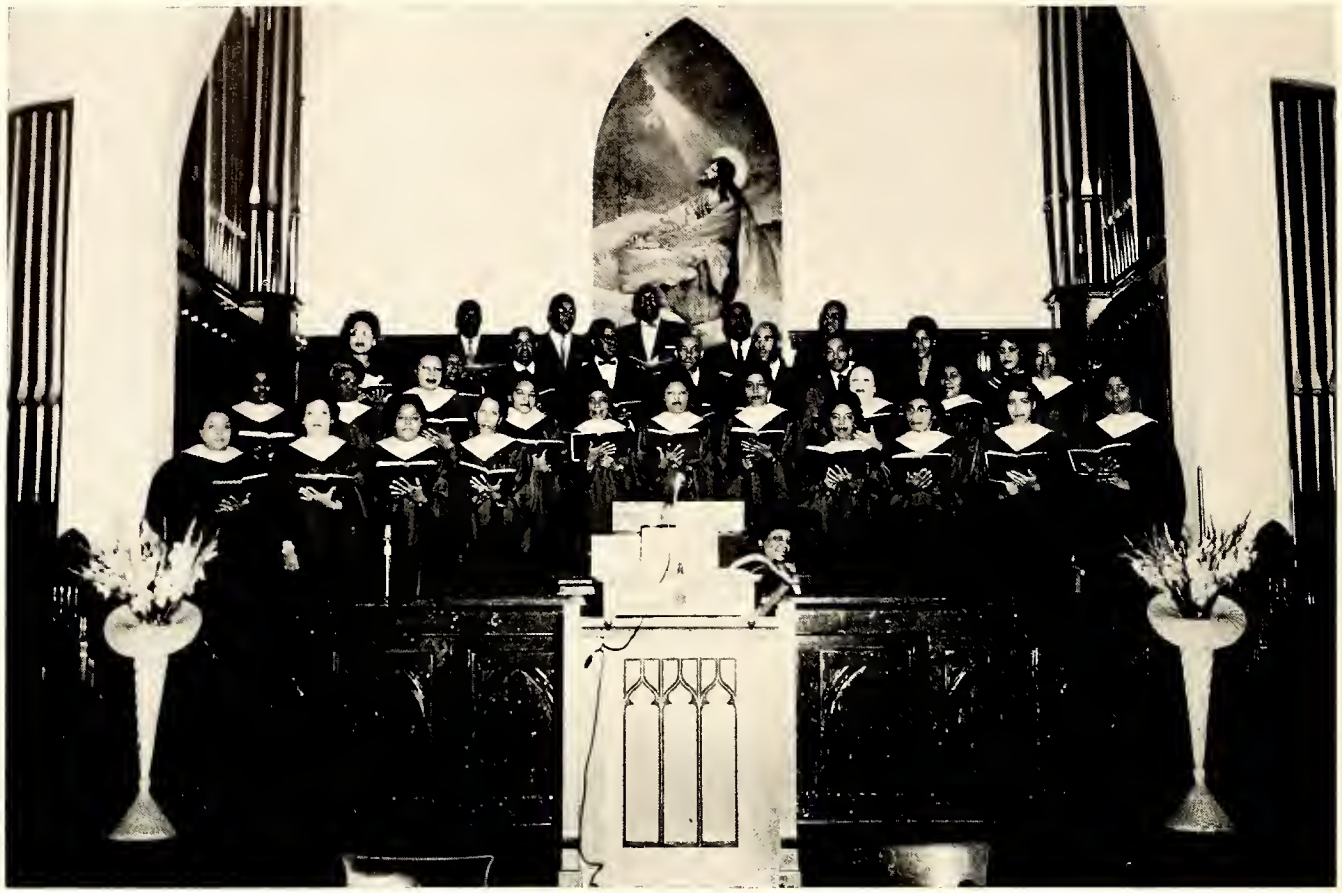
Worship in music as a part of the spiritual life of the church is presently under the direction of Mrs. E. M. M. Kelly, Minister of Music, and of Mrs. M. T. James, Senior Choir Director. These two have a corps of paid and volunteer workers who serve in various music capacities: namely, director of Junior Choir, director of Tots' Choir, director of Male chorus, organist of Junior Choir, and assistant organists.

Mrs. E. May Morgan Kelly has served the church continuously since August, 1922, with a few brief periods of absence on a physician's advice. She served at first as organist, but is now Minister of Music, a position she has held since 1946. She received the bachelor's degree from Shaw University and the master's degree from Columbia University. She studied voice under Dr. Harry Robert Wilson and organ under Dr. Carl Weinrich, both of Columbia University. Mrs. Kelly, a teacher of vocal music at Ligon Junior-Senior High School, has been teaching in the Raleigh public school system since the fall of 1926. She is a member of the American Guild of Organists.

Mrs. M. T. James, director of the Senior Choir, received the A.B. degree from Shaw University and the M.A. degree from the University of Pennsylvania. She was chosen Woman of the Year for 1960. She is a worker in the Church school, the B. T. U., is on the Executive Board of the Y. W. C. A., and is a teacher in the public school system.

The Cathedral Choir

The Senior Choir



MOSLEY-JONES CHOIR

MALE CHORUS

JUNIOR CHOIR

TOTS CHOIR

Senior Usher Board

M. C. Hill is president, Mrs. Cornelia Hawkins and Miss Belva Lane vice presidents.

Junior Usher Board

The youth group is under the general supervision of the general officers of the senior ushers. They perform efficiently one Sunday in each month.

MRS. MAHELIA BULLOCK AND THE SALLIE MIAL BAND, 1946

Youth Activities

The celebration of the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the church may well serve as a period for examining and evaluating the program for the young people.

With the exception of the Sunday School, little or no provision was made to develop and foster interest of the young people. It had not occurred to the adults that young people were something "special" and that special provision should be made to develop and hold their interest.

The Sunday School was the leading factor in the training of the young people, with the original goal being to develop a greater knowledge of and love for the scripture and to teach them to live upright and consecrated lives.

However, in later years it began to dawn upon the pastor and some able leaders that the young people needed more than what the church program offered. And so they set about to do something about it. As a result the Baptist Young People's Union was organized, which was later changed to the Baptist Training Union. The BYPU came into being under the leadership of Dr. and Mrs. O. S. Bullock. Their labor and interest are still bearing fruit.

Under the staunch and prayerful leadership of Mrs. Sarah Brown Marks, Miss Addye Brown, Mr. Turner, Mr. J. W. Yeargin, Mrs. M. B. Greene, Mrs. Bessie Barrett, Mr. C. A. Levister, Miss Pattie Sessom, Miss Clarine Christmas, Mr. Joseph Christmas, Mr. Linwood Sanders, Mr. Henry T. Johnson, Miss Ruth Pope, Miss Madelyn Watson, Miss Olivia Browning, Mrs. Ruby Sanders McKinney, Mr. William Hughes, Mr. W. H. Peace, Jr., Miss Mae Crudup, and Mr. James Hodge, this organization grew and became one of the leading Baptist organizations in the state of North Carolina. The young people enjoyed the many trips to the Baptist State Convention, and frequently returned with the banner for contributing the largest donation to the convention.

These young people were given opportunities for varied and rich experiences — namely, to pray, lead discussions, to sing, to serve as delegates, to become leaders and to learn Baptist doctrine, through study and discussions.

One of the most interesting activities of the B.T.U. was the Story Hour. This gave a place for all age groups to participate.

Today the Baptist Training Union is doing a great work under the leadership of Mr. Frank Hinton and his consecrated associates. The pastor, The Reverend C. W. Ward and his wife are giving the organization their full support in order to make it one of the best media for the training of church members for Christian service and duty.

This church pioneered in promoting the Daily Vacation Bible School under the leadership of Dr. O. S. Bullock. It was organized in 1926. Transportation was and is still furnished for all children, which in no small degree accounts for the fact that the school maintains an average enrollment of 400 pupils. For many years the school ran for one month each year. The present time is for a period of two weeks.

The success of the school has been due largely to the work of the following principals: Mrs. S. B. Marks (now deceased), Miss Effie Yeargin, Mrs. Pattie Smith, Mrs. Fannie Taylor, Mrs. Mildred James, Dr. O. S. Bullock and the Reverend C. W. Ward.

Through continued programs and numerous activities a bright future looms ahead for the young people of the First Baptist Church, for they along with able, consecrated ministers will make the ministry of the church rich and full.

Cub Scouts

Girl Scouts

Boy Scouts

The Church At Work

MISS ADDYE C. BROWN

Office Secretary

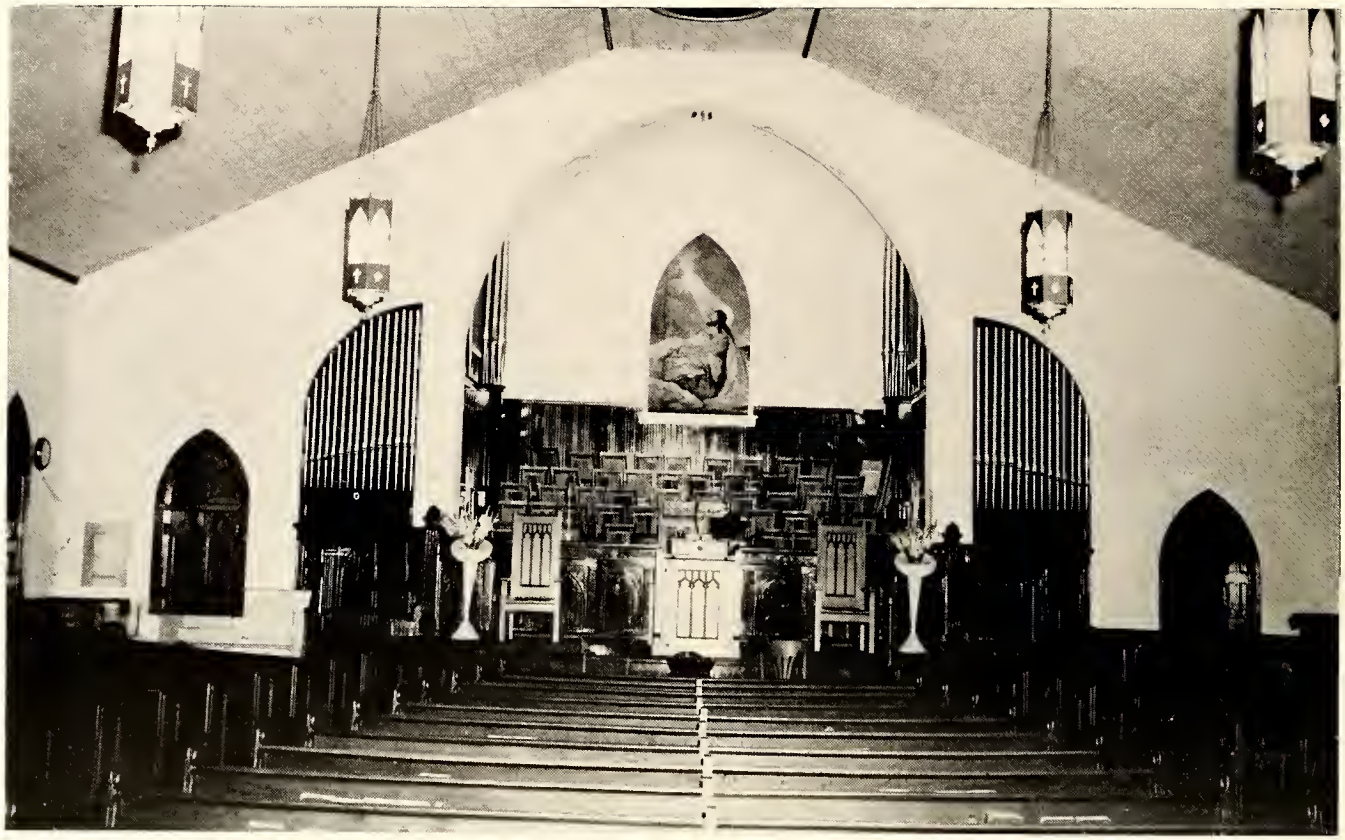
COURTESY COMMITTEE

Left to right: Robert Hodge, Mrs. Louise Nelson, Sylvester White, and William Nelson.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

D. M. Jarnagin, Mrs. Mary Sapp, N. T. Mitchell, Mrs. Wilhelmenia Williams, A. A. Cooke.

The Church At Worship



Church Builders

ATTORNEY WILLIS G. BRIGGS

Recognized authority on the early history of Raleigh and its institutions. He wrote a Historical Sketch of the Baptist Church in 1931. We have used this as a basis for much of our record of the Church.

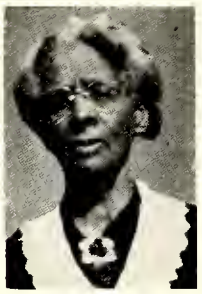
DR. THOMAS E. SKINNER

MRS. FLORENCE YOUNG

ESSEX HENRY

MRS. DAISY LIGON

MRS. SARAH MARKS



MISS MARY BURWELL

A Salute To James W. Yeargin

Chief Historian

Sunday School officer for forty years

Member of Deacon and Trustee Boards thirty-three years

Gave brick for the construction of Sunday School annex 1928

Secured free government labor, WPA, in annex construction

Negotiated $5,000.00 saving in purchase price of Bullock Building, 1945

Serves efficiently as Church Clerk

The Pastoral Family

Seated from left: Mrs. Roberta Gore Ward, the wife of Reverend Ward. Mrs. Ward is a graduate of Fort Valley College, Fort Valley, Georgia and of Clark College, Atlanta, Georgia. She has done additional work in the field of Religious Education at Gammon Theological Seminary, Atlanta, Georgia. She formerly taught in the field of Home Economics. Mrs. Ward is a member of the Ministers Wives Alliance, the Council of United Church Women, and the Fellowship Committee of the Y.W.C.A. She is a writer for the *Missionary Helper* of the Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Baptist Convention of North Carolina.

Next to Mrs. Ward is the Reverend Ward.

Right: Mrs. Georgia T. Gore, the mother of Mrs. Ward. Mrs. Gore is the widow of the late Reverend John Wesley Gore. She has two other daughters, Mrs. Fannie Gore Bradford of Jacksonville, Florida and Miss Minnie T. Gore, Director of Nursing at the Homer G. Phillips Hospital, St. Louis, Missouri.

Standing: Charles Winfred Ward, Jr., the son of Reverend and Mrs. Ward. Charles is 9 years old. He is in the 5th grade at Crosby Garfield School. He attends Sunday School at First Baptist and is a Cub Scout.

THE PARSONAGE

Sesquicentennial Celebration

March 4-11, 1962

Theme

"The Light Through The Years"

I Remember

DR. O. S. BULLOCK

Reminiscences of one's more active days become a source of pleasure particularly when the recollections concern long loved people and places. Without a doubt my recollections of the First Baptist Church in Raleigh brighten as the years pass. Pleasant events and joyous scenes are highlighted, while others fade in the dim light of the past.

Over more than forty years I can yet feel the thrill of surprise, and the delight of anticipation that was mine when the telegram came inviting me to become the pastor of the First Baptist Church in Raleigh, N. C. This invitation broke the tradition which customarily subjects the prospective minister to a "trial sermon" and to a searching interview with church officials. During the thirty-seven years of my pastorate, the pattern of tradition-breaking developed in the relationship between membership and pastor. There was always strong, supporting leadership encouraging me as I embarked upon new and sometimes visionary programs. . . . . .

I visualize many "high days" of achievement in numerous areas of the physical and spiritual efforts within the thriving church program. Before my eyes pass the faces of many of the older, staunch supporters who have left the scene — Church Treasurer James Higgs; Brothers Collins Walker, W. H. Peace, Essex Henry, George Jones; Brothers Dover, Lindsay and Mosley. Add to them those dedicated women working ceaselessly in Sunday School, White Christmas, or Daily Vacation Bible School, or evangelical services: Sisters Ella C. Pegues, Delia Pope, Sarah Marks, Susan Taylor, Pattie Hinton, and others. . . . .

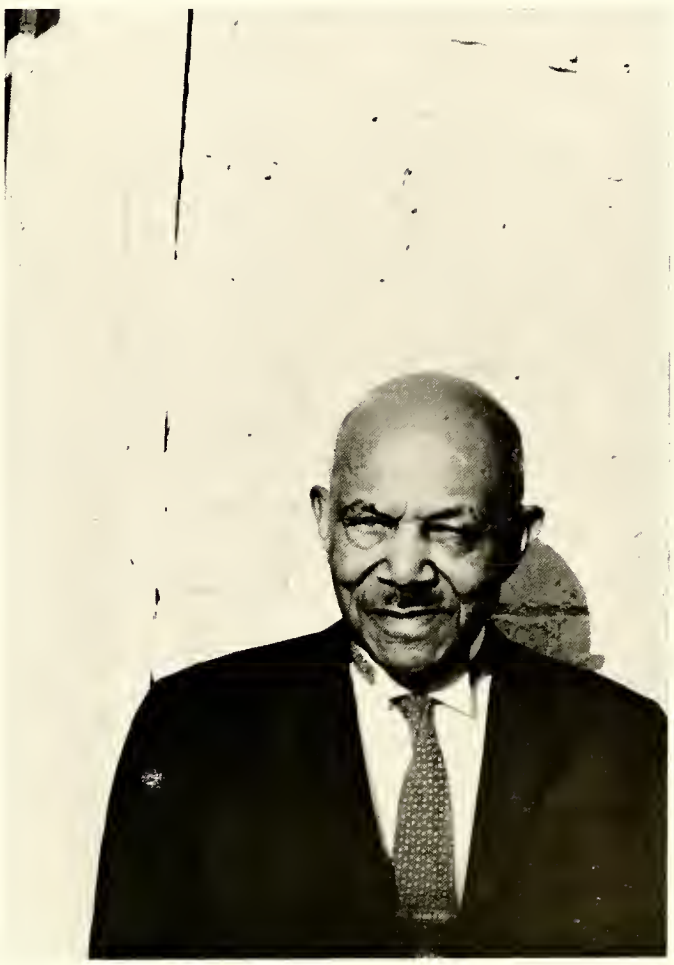
Beyond the events, buildings and materials that mark the long path of the years, lie the hundreds of thoughts and feelings involving sincere friends, devout Christians and fellow workers whose lives have touched mine and who will live forever in my mind as I remember. . . .

Guest Speakers

DR. MARSHALL SHEPARD

The Reverend Marshall L. Shepard was born July 10, 1899 in Oxford, N. C. He was educated at Virginia Union University in Richmond, Va., and Pendle Hill Quaker Graduate Center in Wallingford, Pa. He was assistant pastor of Abyssinia Baptist Church in New York City from 1923-26. From 1926 to the present time he has served as pastor of Mount Olivet Tabernacle Baptist Church, Philadelphia, Pa. He was elected to the Pennsylvania State Legislature from 1934-36-40 and cited for meritorious service by the Governor of the Commonwealth. In September, 1944, he was appointed Recorder of Deeds of Washington, D. C. In 1951, he was elected Recorder of Deeds of Philadelphia. He was electd Councilman-at-Large of Philadelphia in November, 1955 and re-elected in November, 1959.

Other activities include: Religious Work Secretary, 135th Street Branch YMCA, New York, New York 1922-23; former chairman, Foreign Mission Board of the National Baptist Convention; delegate and speaker at the World Baptist Alliance in 1947 at Copenhagen, Denmark; Board of Directors, Christian Street YMCA, Philadelphia; Division Christian Life and Work, National Council of Churches. His fraternal organizations include Alpha Phi Alpha, Masons, and Elks.



DR. C. E. ASKEW

Dr. Askew, a former pastor of this church (1912-1921), was born in Harrellsville, North Carolina. He received his literary and theological training at Shaw University, Raleigh, North Carolina. The honorary degrees of Doctor of Divinity has been conferred upon him by his alma mater and by Benedict College, South Carolina.

Prior to his acceptance of the pastorate of this church, Dr. Askew served at the First Baptist Church in Rocky Mount, North Carolina. In 1921 he answered a call to serve as pastor of a church in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and following this he moved to the Third Baptist Church, Detroit, Michigan. He remained at this post until his retirement.

Since coming back to North Carolina, Dr. Askew has served as guest minister and supply pastor at many of our churches. After the retirement of Dr. Bullock he served as interim pastor.

Dr. and Mrs. Askew reside in Zebulon, N. C.

DR. ROBERT M. PITTS

A native of South Carolina, Dr. Pitts was educated in the public schools of Rock Hill, S. C. and graduated from Friendship College, and was later awarded the honorary Doctor of Divinity degree by Friendship College.

Dr. Pitts has probably conducted more evangelistic and revival services than any other living and active pastor in our state. He is known far and wide as a pulpiteer. He is also outstanding as a financier, builder and pastor. Under his capable leadership the Shiloh Baptist Church of Winston-Salem, N. C., has built, paid for and dedicated a new education building at a cost of $75,000.00.

As president of the General Baptist Convention of North Carolina, Inc., perhaps the most outstanding fact of our president's tenure has been in his leading the Baptist of North Carolina in assuming the capital indebtedness of Shaw University. He is leading the Baptists in liquidating this indebtedness.

These words seem to describe our president:

"Loyal in devotion to the convention, its purpose and objective; earnest in his efforts to provide leadership, adventurous in launching out into new and wider areas of Christian service, dynamic in his approach. Energetic in promoting the program, stalwart in moments of crisis, honorable in the conduct of office, indefatigable in action, patient in tribulation spell out the type of leadership which Dr. Pitts has provided since taking the helm of the ship."*

**Baptist Informer*, Vol. 83, June, 1961, p. 3.

Dr. William R. Strassner, the sixth president of historic Shaw University, was born in Morrilton, Arkansas.

His formal education was received at Arkansas Baptist College, Little Rock, Arkansas, and at Virginia Union University Theological Seminary. Later he entered Andover Newton Theological School, Boston, Massachusetts for further theological training where he received the Master of Sacred Theology. Dr. Strassner has also done doctoral work at Union Theological Seminary and Columbia University.

He has had a highly successful career as a Baptist minister and pastor, Dean of the School of Religion both at Bishop College, Marshall, Texas and at Shaw University, and was elected president of the Institution in 1950. In 1952 Shaw University conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Divinity.

Among his long list of memberships the following are significant: Fellowship of Southern Churchmen, Southern Regional Educational Fund, North Carolina Teachers Association, National Education Association, Boy Scouts of America, Young Men's Christian Association. His name is listed in *Religious Leaders of America*.

Dr. Strassner is a minister, educator, administrator and an ambassador of Christian education; wise in his unremitting efforts to move America forward towards our historic goals of real equality and justice.

DR. WILLIAM R. STRASSNER

DR. ROBERT P. DANIEL

Dr. Robert P. Daniel, a son of the distinguished Daniel family, was born on the campus of Virginia State College. He received the A.B. degree at Virginia Union University as valedictorian of his class, and the A.M. and Ph.D. degrees at Columbia University. He has done post-doctoral study in Bible at Union Theological Seminary of New York.

As an educator since 1924, he has been a professor of Education at Virginia Union University (1924-36), president of Shaw University (1936-50), and president of Virginia State College (1950-). An outstanding scholar and educator, he has held positions and appointments in numerous educational and professional organizations.

The recipient of numerous honors and awards, he holds membership in many honorary and learned organizations. He is listed in eight biographical publications, including *Who's Who in American Education*, *Who's Who in America* and *World Biography*.

As a citizen and churchman his activities have been many and varied. Receiving appointments from former presidents Truman and Eisenhower, he has been a member of three Federal advisory boards and chairman of the Evaluation Team of the Technical Assistance Program of Liberia (1954). An outstanding Baptist layman and minister (ordained to the ministry in 1940), he has served in many capacities at local, national, and international levels.

He is married to the former Blanche Ardelle Taylor of Richmond, Virginia. She, as did her husband received the A.B. degree from Virginia Union University and the A.M. degree from Columbia University. Both Dr. and Mrs. Daniel are members of the Gillfield Baptist Church, Petersburg, Virginia.

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From the "Mother Church" of Baptist congregations in the city of Raleigh, we extend greetings and congratulations to you in the Sesquicentennial celebration of your congregation as a continuing Christian fellowship. We pray God's blessing to be poured out upon you in the future as in the past. Though our congregations went their free and independent ways many decades ago in the spirit of fraternal love, we would acknowledge in that same spirit our continuing and unbroken oneness in Christ and His eternal Kingdom. We invite you to our celebration, even as we have asked your Board of Deacons to be official guests on Tuesday, March 6, 1962, at which time your esteemed pastor will pray the evening prayer for us.

JOHN LEWIS, *Pastor*
First Baptist Church
Salisbury and Edenton Streets

SESQUICENTENNIAL WORSHIP PROGRAM

THEME: *"The Light Through The Years."*

SUNDAY, MARCH 4, 1962

Morning Worship ..... 11 O'clock

THE REVEREND C. W. WARD, *Pastor, Presiding*

ORGAN PRELUDE — "Panis Angelicus" ..... *Franck*
"Jesu, Joy of Man's Desire" ..... *Bach*
"Our Father Who Art in Heaven" .... *Bach*

MRS. E. MAY M. KELLY, *Minister of Music*

CALL TO WORSHIP:
PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 244—"The Church's One Foundation"
INVOCATION: RESPONSE — "Threefold Amen."
HYMN No. 133 — "All Hail The Power Of Jesus Name."
STATEMENT OF PURPOSE ..... MRS. NORA EVANS LOCKHART
HYMN No. 128 — "Oh For A Thousand Tongues To Sing"
SCRIPTURE
PRAYER ..... REVEREND J. A. LESTER
RESPONSE No. 147 — "Come Holy Spirit Heavenly Dove"
ANTHEM — "Hallelujah Chorus" From *Messiah* ..... *Handel*

THE SESQUICENTENNIAL CHOIR

ANNOUNCEMENTS
RECOGNITION OF VISITORS
OFFERTORY — "Where Could I Go But To The Lord."
INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER ..... MR. W. C. DAVENPORT
Co-Chairman, Sesquicentennial Committee
HYMN OF MEDITATION No. 39 — "Oh God Our Help"
SERMON ..... DR. MARSHALL SHEPARD
Pastor, Mount Olivet Baptist Church
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
HYMN OF INVITATION No. 168 — "My Faith Looks Up To Thee"
DOXOLOGY
BENEDICTION
MEDITATION
ORGAN POSTLUDE

SUNDAY, MARCH 4, 1962 — 7:30 P.M.

THE REVEREND LEOTHA DEBNAM, *Presiding*
Pastor, First Baptist Church, Smithfield, N. C.

JOINT COMMUNION SERVICE

Baptist Churches of Raleigh, North Carolina
and Wake Association

ORGAN PRELUDE — "Litany For The Feast Of All Saints"
Shubert
"In Death's Strong Grasp
The Saviour Lay" ..... *Bach*
"O Divine Redeemer" ..... *Gounod*

MRS. E. MAY M. KELLY, *Minister of Music*

CALL TO WORSHIP
PROCESSIONAL — "Lead Me To Calvary"
INVOCATION: RESPONSE — "Threefold Amen"
HYMN No. 249 — "Faith Of Our Fathers"
SCRIPTURE — Cor. 11:23-34
PRAYER
RESPONSE No. 147 — "Come Holy Spirit."
SELECTION — "Let Us Break Bread Together"

THE SESQUICENTENNIAL CHOIR

OFFERTORY — "He Is King Of Kings"

THE SESQUICENTENNIAL CHOIR

HYMN OF MEDITATION No. 251 — "O Happy Day"
SERMON — "The Lord's Supper" ..... DR. C. E. ASKEW
Retired Former Pastor
COMMUNION EXCERPTS ..... DR. GRADY DAVIS
Pastor, Oberlin Baptist Church
COMMUNION SERVICE
HYMNS No. 253 — "Bread Of Heaven"
No. 181 — "Amazing Grace"
No 217 — "Blest Be The Tie That Binds"

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7, 1962 — 8:00

DR. O. L. SHERRILL, *Presiding*

Executive Secretary, General Baptist State Convention

ORGAN PRELUDE

R. H. TOOLE

Organist, Saint Paul Methodist Church

CALL TO WORSHIP

INVOCATION: RESPONSE — "Bless The Lord O My Soul"

HYMN No. 284 — "God Of Grace And God Of Glory"

SCRIPTURE — Genesis 12:1-9.

PRAYER

RESPONSE — "Hear Our Prayer O Lord" ..... *Whelpton*

ANTHEM — "Zion Stands With Hills Surrounded" *Hasting Loran*

SAINT PAUL CHORISTERS

R. H. TOOLE, *Director*

MRS. MARY SMITH, *Assistant*

OFFERTORY — "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" *Arr by Mueller*

THE SESQUICENTENNIAL CHOIR

MRS. E. MAY M. KELLY, *Director*

GREETINGS

Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention ..... DR. ELLEN S. ALSTON

The North Carolina Baptist Convention .. DR. DOUGLAS BRANCH

SELECTION — "Plenty Good Room" ..... *Wilson*

ST. PAUL CHORISTERS, R H. TOOLE, *Director*

GREETINGS

The Raleigh Ministerial Association ..... REVEREND GEORGE B. S. HALE

The Raleigh Interdenominational Ministers Alliance ..... REVEREND D. N. HOWARD

INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER ..... DR. O. L. SHERRILL

SELECTION — "I Love Thy Kingdom Lord"

ST. PAUL CHORISTERS, R. H. TOOLE, *Director*

SERMON — "God and Abraham in Partnership" .. DR. R. M. PITTS

President, General Baptist State Convention

ANTHEM — "Now Let All The Heavens Adore Thee" ..... *Bach*

ST. PAUL CHORISTERS, R. H. TOOLE, *Director*

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

ORGAN POSTLUDE

THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 1962 — 8:00

DR. PAUL H. JOHNSON, *Presiding*

Pastor, Martin Street Baptist Church

ORGAN PRELUDE

HARRY H. GIL-SMYTHE, *Organist*

CALL TO WORSHIP:

INVOCATION: RESPONSE

HYMN No. 12 — "Day Is Dying in the West"

SCRIPTURE — Romans 1:8-17

PRAYER: RESPONSE

ANTHEM — "Cry Out And Shout" ..... *Knut*

THE SHAW UNIVERSITY CHORALE SOCIETY

HARRY H. GIL-SMYTHE, *Director*

OFFERTORY: Solo — "Eternal Life" ..... *Dungan*

JOE BROWN, *Baritone*

GREETINGS

Saint Augustine's College ..... DR. JAMES A. BOYER

President, Saint Augustine's College

Raleigh Council of Churches ... ATTY. CHARLES F. BLANCHARD

INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER ..... DR. P. H. JOHNSON

SELECTION — "Elijah Rock" ..... *Hall-Johnson*

THE SHAW UNIVERSITY CHORALE SOCIETY

SERMON — "Our Debt and Our Duty" .. DR. W. R. STRASSNER

President, Shaw University

ANTHEM — "When Thou Comest" ..... *Rosinni*

THE SHAW UNIVERSITY CHORALE SOCIETY

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

ORGAN POSTLUDE

1812 1962

ONE HUNDRED FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY

BANQUET

CHAVIS HEIGHTS RECREATION CENTER

MARCH 9, 1962 — 8:00 P.M.

M E N U

CHILLED FRUIT CUP

CELERY HEARTS CARROT STICKS

ROAST TURKEY

DRESSING WITH GIBLET GRAVEY

CRANBERRY SAUCE

SWEET POTATO SOUFFLE

STRING BEANS COUNTRY STYLE

SPICED CRAB APPLE

HEARTS OF LETTUCE FRENCH DRESSING

ASSORTED ROLLS

WARM APPLE PIE WITH CHEESE

COFFEE

PROGRAM

Toastmistress: MRS. NORA EVANS LOCKHART
Chairman, Sesquicentennial Committee

INVOCATION ..... The Reverend Charles W. Ward
Pastor

RESPONSE: Solo — "The Lord's Model Prayer" ..... Miss Ernestine Laws

WELCOME ..... Dr. Nelson L. Perry
Finance Committee

DINNER

MUSIC — "Veni Creator"
Sesquicentennial Ensemble

SPECIAL GUESTS ..... Mrs. Virginia K. Newell
Program Committee

GREETINGS:

Richard B. Harrison Library .. Mrs. Mollie H. Lee
Head Librarian

Young Women's Christian Association ..... Mrs. Hattie Edmondson
President

MUSIC: Solo — "Let All My Life Be Music"
Mrs. Shirley Liggett

GREETINGS:

Young Men's Christian Association ..... Mr. Charles A. Haywood, Sr.
President

Business ..... Mr. C. C. Smith, Jr.
District Manager, N. C. Mutual Life Insurance Company

MUSIC: Solo —
Mr. Lorenzo Battle, *Tenor*

SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

BENEDICTION

SUNDAY, MARCH 11, 1962

Eleven O'clock

THE REVEREND C. W. WARD, *Pastor, Presiding*

ORGAN PRELUDE — "Let Us All Praise Our God" ..... *Bach*
— "A Rose Breaks Into Bloom" ..... *Brahms*
— "Ave Verum" ..... *Mozart*

MRS. E. MAY M. KELLY, *Minister of Music*

CALL TO WORSHIP·
PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 210 — "Lead On O King Eternal"
INVOCATION
RESPONSE — "Threefold Amen"
HYMN No. 247 — "I Love Thy Kingdom Lord"
RESPONSIVE READING
HYMN No. 1 — "Holy, Holy, Holy"
SCRIPTURE — II Timothy 1:1-14.
PRAYER ..... REVEREND J. M. CLANTON
RESPONSE No. 420 — "Hear Our Prayer O Lord"
ANTHEM — "O Morn Of Beauty" ..... *Sibeline*

THE SESQUICENTENNIAL CHOIR

ANNOUNCEMENTS — RECOGNITION OF VISITORS
OFFERTORY — "I Just Can't Make It By Myself"
HISTORICAL SKETCH ..... MR. J. W. YEARGIN
INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER ..... DR. NELSON H. HARRIS
HYMN OF MEDITATION No. 238 — "Jesus Saviour Pilot Me"
SERMON — "Unfaltering Trust" ..... DR. ROBERT P. DANIEL
President, Virginia State College
HYMN OF INVITATION No. 173 — "I Am Coming To The Cross"
DOXOLOGY
BENEDICTION
RECESSIONAL HYMN No. 209 — "Onward Christian Soldiers"
ORGAN POSTLUDE

RECEPTION — 5:00-6:00

EVENING WORSHIP

SUNDAY, MARCH 11, 1962 — 7:30

THE REVEREND C. W. WARD, *Pastor, Presiding*

ORGAN PRELUDE — "Come Sweet Peace" ..... *Bach*
"If With All Your Hearts" ..... *Mendelssohn*
"O Rest In The Lord" ..... *Mendelssohn*

MRS. E. MAY M. KELLY, *Minister of Music*

CALL TO WORSHIP
PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 47 — "Rejoice Ye Pure In Heart"
INVOCATION
RESPONSE — "Threefold Amen"
HYMN No. 245 — "Zion Stands"
SCRIPTURE
PRAYER
RESPONSE No. 147 — "Come Holy Spirit"
SELECTION — "He Knows Just How Much You Can Bear"
SESQUICENTENNIAL PAGEANT —
First Baptist Church, Raleigh, North Carolina
(1812 1962)
MRS. MILDRED T. JAMES, *Director*
SOLO — "Eternal Life" ..... *Dungan*

MISS MARJORIE WILLIAMS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM — "Psalm One Hundred and Fifty"
HYMN No. 216 — "We March, We March To Victory"
DOXOLOGY
BENEDICTION
MEDITATION
ORGAN POSTLUDE

†

FRIENDS EXTEND CONGRATULATIONS AND IMPLORE HEAVEN'S RICHEST BLESSINGS AS WE MARCH FORWARD INTO A SECOND "150 *YEARS OF UNBROKEN SERVICE FOR GOD.*"

Our Friends in Business

He that abideth in me, and I in him, bringeth forth much fruit. — John 15:5

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MECHANICS AND FARMERS BANK
Durham-Raleigh

Organizations

Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God. — I Corinthians 10:31

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HOUSEHOLD OF RUTH No. 116
Mrs. Elnora Sanders, M. N. G.

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Dr. Ellen S. Alston, Executive Secretary

BAPTIST SUPPLY STORE
Mrs. Varah Noble, Assistant Manager

Omicron Zeta Chapter
ZETA PHI BETA SORORITY, Inc.
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Ruth Chapter No. 2
ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR
Mrs. C. G. Irving, Worthy Matron

Eta Sigma Chapter
PHI BETA SIGMA FRATERNITY
Guilbert Daley, President

THE ROSE BUD GARDEN CLUB
Mrs. Pattie Higgs, President

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Earl D. Haywood, Worshipful Master

FOURTH WARD FLORAL CLUB
Mrs. Mary Lane, President

Iota Iota Chapter
OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY
W. W. Hurdle, Basileus

Our Sister Churches Greet Us

If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me. — Luke 9:23.

TUPPER MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH
Reverend D. N. Howard, Pastor

SHILOH BAPTIST CHURCH, Winston-Salem
Dr. R. Mack Pitts, Pastor

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, Wilson
Reverend Talmadge Watkins, Pastor

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, LaGrange, Ga.
Reverend R. L. Hill, Pastor

NEW AHOSKIE BAPTIST CHURCH, Ahoskie
Reverend William D. Tyree, Pastor

GOOD HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH, Shotwell
Reverend C. R. Trotter, Pastor

FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH, New York
Reverend Thomas Kilgore, Pastor

MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH, Rocky Mount
Reverend George Dudley, Pastor

FLAT CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH, Henderson
Reverend J. E. McGrier, Pastor

Friends

Giving thanks always for all things unto God. — Ephesians 5:20.

MISS JEANNE V. EATON
New York, N. Y.

MRS. ANTOINETTE JOHNSON TOLSON
Washington, D. C.

DR. AND MRS. W. R. STRASSNER
Shaw University
Raleigh, North Carolina

DR. JAMES A. BOYER
President, Saint Augustine's College
Raleigh, North Carolina

REVEREND A. A. ANDERSON
Raleigh, North Carolina

DR. O. L. SHERRILL, Executive Secretary
General Baptist State Convention, Inc.
Raleigh, North Carolina

DR. R. MACK PITTS, President
General Baptist State Convention, Inc.
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

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Executive Secretary, Lott Carey Foreign Mission Baptist Convention
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MRS. SARAH R. SPEED
Raleigh, North Carolina

DR. WALTER SLADE, JR.
Brooklyn, New York

MISS EUGENIA JOHNSON
Raleigh, North Carolina

Look earnestly to the future with these members of our church:

And greater things shall ye do John 14:12

Albea, Mrs. Mahalie
Allen, Mrs. Berlie
Alston, Mrs. Ellen
Ancrum, Mrs. Nannie
Ballentine, Mrs. Lillie S.
Bean, Reverend J. D.
Beckwith, Mrs. Ruth
Blount, Mrs. Matilda
Bolton, Mrs. Flossie
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Branch, Mrs. Mary
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Davenport, W. C.
Davenport, Walter*
Debnam, Leotha*
Debnam, Emily Mae*
Debnam, Miss Pearline*
DeLane, Mrs. Rosa
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Dunn, Eugene
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Dunn, Mrs. Eugenia
Dunn, Millie*
Dunn, Mazie Bell*

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Eaton, Miss Faye Y.*
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Jarnagin, D. M.
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Jones, Carol*
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Lundy, Sarah Ann*
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York, Everlee
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**Denotes Junior Member*

ERRATA

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Front Row: left to right: M. C. Hill, Dr. N. L. Perry, Mrs. E. Morgan Kelly, C. R. Frazer, J. W. Yeargin, Joseph Christmas, Jesse Branche, Dr. Ellen S. Alston, Reverend D. N. Howard, Mrs. Mildred T. James, and Mrs. Kathleen L. Thomas.

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Miss Belva Lane
Mrs. Janie Jeffers
Mrs. Ada Mason
Mrs. Catherine Robinson
Miss Elizabeth Pugh
Mrs. Ann Williams
Mrs. Erlene Langston

Our Sesquicentennial Celebration

CORE-COMMITTEE

Left to right: Reverend C. W. Ward, Pastor; J. W. Yeargin, Historian; W. C. Davenport, Co-Chairman; Mrs. Nora Evans Lockhart, Chairman.

In Appreciation

When one sits down to write any expression of a deep feeling, he has undertaken a tremendous task, and to be sure this instance is no exception for us. To have been elected to guide this great ship to a happy harbor was indeed an honor and a challenge. In spite of the interspersed trying moments a great amount of genuine pleasure and personal growth has been derived from the experience.

Ties of loyalty, trust and Christ-like living in the church family have been re-enforced on the one hand, and new ties recognized on the other. The large number of patrons of this celebration encompasses many people in many walks of life. Their expressions of faith will cause members of the First Baptist Church to re-assess their values and re-affirm their faith in the love of God and the brotherhood of man.

The entire membership of the church, headed by the pastor, has worked tirelessly and prayerfully to bring this Sesquicentennial Celebration to a successful conclusion.

Under the watchful eye of the Almighty, may the contribution of the present generation to the progress of this great church carry far into the next, "One Hundred Fifty Years of Unbroken Service for God."

With grateful hearts,

NORA EVANS LOCKHART, *Chairman*
W. C. DAVENPORT, *Co-Chairman*

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